

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second  
Class Mail Matter.

The executive officer was one of the ablest and most competent men in the navy, Lieutenant-Commander, now Admiral, RICHARD WAINWRIGHT. The regulations in regard to paints and inflammables were, he testified, "strictly carried out." The discipline was "fine," he said, "the crew were very obedient very quiet men." An important witness was Commander G. A. CONVERSE, one of the highest authorities in the navy upon the effect of explosives and a practical demonstrator with heavy charges of nitroglycerine, dynamite and zincumite in mines and torpedoes. Sketches of the bent plates and riveted keel being shown to him, he averred

**The New York Hospital.**

The news that the New York Hospital has acquired a site on the North River adjacent to De Witt Clinton Park was no doubt read with satisfaction by the many friends of that institution, the oldest of its kind in the city. The new site, roomy, accessible, and with an ideal exposure, is eminently suited to the purposes of a great hospital. The property in Fifth and Sixth streets, near Fifth avenue, has of late become very valuable and may be sold or leased to advantage.

The hospital there, when opened in 1857, was regarded as "probably the

This persistent absence seems the more singular when we remember that during the process of Congress it was the Hon. HARRY M. COUDREY of the Twelfth Missouri district who occupied assiduously (with his typewriters, his card-indexes of eligibles, male and female), and his huge pile of blue embossed official stationery of the House) the Capitol whence all but him had fled.

studied it. Not illustrious personage was eight years, 1776 to 1783, learning American with Professor William Smith, and saw enough and heard enough of the instruction given that the greatest of kings could understand American very well, thank you, when the course was completed.

Coming down to the present day, Washington was not the only President to teach American. I write this with a glance at headlines telling me that Mr. Taft has spoken in good, unmistakable President's American to Commander Slims. Hats off, say I, to the American President who reads the riot act to any naval or military commander plumes his presence in the room assumes to yield American dignity at the foreigners' feast. JACOB BACKEN

NEW YORK, JANUARY 10

Mr. Kirby will sell the painting of the Dr. Leslie D. Ward of Newark, N. J., the meantime the collection is on view at the American Art Galleries, Madison Square South, and makes an interesting showing. Like the Converse collection that of Dr. Ward reveals less the amateur on forming a rounded group of subjects than the lover of canvases that appeals to his fancy. So with the Barbizonists get the usual Ziem, Van Marcke, Meunier, Vibert, Gröme, Detaille, and a number of other little masters, all excellent.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: With regard to the denaturing of hampins, may I suggest that cork would make an effective sheath? Corks are in various sizes, and any objection to their so what homespun appearance might be overcome by whitening them into the form of cherries, strawberries, etc., and staining the proper color.

I believe that cork has been used for the purpose of puncture in crowded elevators before, and he is carrying in his coat pocket a few small tablets to be used as emergency sheaths on small bayonets from which retreat is impossible.

An adequate emergency has not arisen since new plan was adopted, so he is unable to report its working.

WILLIAM W. HIGGIN

stantial premium when offered for  
KNICKERBOCKER  
NEW YORK, January 10.

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**Manhattan Windmills.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Changes from old New York to the new as to any of the old fashioned windmills of which in the earlier days adorned this island and vicinity? Who can remember any of these, and who can state when they were pulled down, and where tolerably accurate descriptions of any of them may be found?  
F. H. S.

The news that the New York Hospital required a site on the North River bank of the Hudson was doubtless read with satisfaction by the friends of that institution, the first of its kind in the city. The new building, spacious, airy, bright, roomy, accessible, and with ample exposure, is eminently suited to the purposes of a great hospital. The new building, situated at the corner of Fifth Avenue, has of late been very valuable and may be so used to advantage.

The hospital there, when opened in 1890, was regarded as "probably the

What has become of the Hon. HARRY MARCY CORDREY of the Twelfth Missouri district?

Since this session began there have been twelve calls of the roll in the House of Representatives, either on yeo and nay votes or to ascertain the existence of a quorum. The first roll call was on December 5; the last, of which we have record was on January 9. We summarize the results of the twelve roll calls so far as the Hon. Mr. CORDREY's presence or absence is concerned:

Representative CORDREY present or voting	Representative CORDREY absent or not voting
12	0

This persistent aloofness seems the more singular when we remember that during the peccod of Congress it was the Hon. HARRY M. CORDREY of the Twelfth Missouri district who occupied assiduously (with his typewriters, his card indexes of eligibles, male and female, and his huge pile of blue embossed official stationery of the House) the Capitol whence all but him had fled.

We hope that the continued absence of the Hon. Mr. CORDREY will not pre-

**Mr. Jacob Backes Discusses It and Posing the Prescript.**

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In yesterday's SUN a gentleman relating to the signature of the Declaration of Independence, and making remarks about the American language with irrelevant remarks about my "Icelandic name" and about "Icelandic and Persian Idioms."

If I am not mistaken, I am of America, American names and the American language as he thinks he knows about Iceland and Persia he would recognize that many names and idioms strange appearing or occurring in the American language are of native and natural origin. In New York, McCormick, O'Neill, Schmidt, Schurz, Couderf, Mollemaux, Delunzio, North, names, Moskowitz, Jensen are all good American names. I know not that he knows all fired little about what America was discovered for, or about what the Declaration of Independence was signed for, or about the American language. He may learn much more by looking into the "G." may learn much more before he applies for his naturalization papers.

If the American language is to him so difficult or so different from the near American or far from American of his father, he may apply himself diligently to learning it before he takes out his first citizenship papers, the same as George III. studied it. That illustrious personage was eighty years old when he came to America, and after a year in Washington as tutor, and so thorough a proficient was the instruction given that the greatest King could understand American very well, thank you, when the clock was completed.

He was not the only President to learn American. As I write this a glance at headlines tells me that Mr. Taft has spoken in good, unmistakable President's English. He is not the present day Washington who was the only President to learn American. As I write this a glance at headlines tells me that Mr. Taft has spoken in good, unmistakable President's English.

As to the American President who reads the riot act to any naval officer who abroad plunders the prescript and presumes to yield American Integrity to the world.

Yours truly,  
JACOB BACKES

NEW YORK, JANUARY 16, 1892.

that will fill painters and connoisseurs with perennial admiration. The work is presented to the Hispanic Museum, Mrs. C. P. Huntington in memory of late Colis P. Huntington.

It now occupies the place where hung the effigy of the frail Duke of Alba by Goya, which is moved to the Next to it is the famous Antonio Maza and on the same line are the two Velasquezes: the portrait of Cardinal Philip, and the head—what a magnificent evocation of the little Maza girl, granddaughter of Velasquez. There are other changes in the museum; portraits by Sorolla y Bastida and Zuloaga fill spaces formerly arches of the original gallery. Mr. Huntington has the original sketches made by Sorolla for the heads of Mr. Thomas F. Ryan; they depict the voyage of Columbus, and as usual we imagined are far from the decorative style of Puvis de Chavannes, though the picturesque quality is not to be denied.

On Friday evening at Mendelssohn Mr. Kirby will sell the paintings of the Dr. Leslie D. Ward of Newark, N. J., the meantime the collection is on view at the American Art Galleries, Madison Square South, and makes an interesting showing. Like the Converse collection that of Dr. Ward reveals less the amateur than on forming a rounded group of achievement. The cover of canvases that appeal to his fancy, the "Barbizon" get the usual Ziemi, Ziem, Marcke, Meunier, Vibert, Gérôme, Detaille, and a number of other little masters. The collection

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two shilling pieces. Prices in the stores were stated in sixpences or pence. There was practically no mintage of Government circulation.

At the panic of 1873 the bank notes in denomination of \$1, 2, 5, 10 and \$20 in order to provide fractional currency in place of the Spanish and Mexican coins which had recently been ostracized.

At the outbreak of the civil war gold and silver coins of small value, a premium and disappeared from circulation. Car fare and other small payments were made in United States postal notes, which were then in circulation, matted together and so soiled as to be almost indistinguishable. As a result of the war the Government was of unknown financial responsibility, their individual trade tokens which were made in the form of small pieces of copper stamped with the name of the issuer and their assumed value.

The first effort of the national government to provide fractional currency was in 1862, when it issued in denominations of 3 cents, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents and 50 cents. So many of these were destroyed that it was difficult to keep track of them and the officers were busy and worried as to the fate of the issue.

The first substantial premium when offered for the old New York, January 10, 1890.

**Manhattan Windmills.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: C. J. the veterans who have lived and thrived through the changes from old New York to the new New York, and who have seen the changes of which in the earlier days adorned New York island and vicinity? Who can remember the old New York, and who can remember any of these, and who can state when the old New York was first destroyed, and of descriptions of any of them he has found? F. H. S.